SARON MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook:www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Saron's Mission: ***Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!!***

Reverend James E. Smith, Pastor
Cell: 269-816-3870
Email: pastorjames@saronlutheran.org

Amanda Bradley, Admin Assistant
Cell: 419-306-5780
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
bradley717@gmail.com

Marcus Roll, Music Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com

Beth Gray-Roll, Organist
Email: egrayroll@gmail.com

Ken Boyd, Bookkeeper
Email: financial@saronlutheran.org

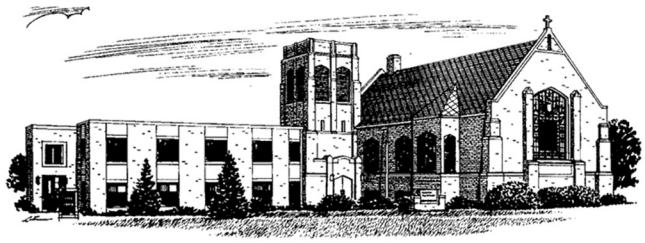
Typical Sunday at Saron:

Fall, Winter and Spring **(begins Sept 7, 2025):**
8:30am Worship On-Location
9:40am-10:30am Adult Bible Study
10am-10:45am Learning Hour for Ages 3-8th Grade
11am Worship with Zoom Option
Nursery Available

Summer Schedule (**through Aug 31, 2025**):
10am Worship
On-Location and via Zoom
Nursery Available
No Learning Hour

We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia



One Church, Three Expressions

If someone asked you about the three expressions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), what would you say? Well, if you asked most of us, the answer would probably be: bemused, befuddled, and bewildered. But fear not: there actually is a correct answer! Here's an overview:

Expression 1: Local Congregation
Easy enough! Our local congregation is Saron Ev. Lutheran Church. Congregations are where the Word is preached, the sacraments are administered, where we meet for prayer, song, service, mutual support, learning, and potlucks. There are over 8,000 congregations in the ELCA.

Expression 2: Synod
What's a synod anyway? Within the ELCA, the synod functions as a regional district or diocese might in other Christian traditions and is served by a bishop. The word *synod* means "the way together." Synods help support congregations, youth camps, outreach, pair congregations with pastors, and more. We are members of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod (known as the "Mitten" Synod, consisting of most of the Lower Peninsula). There are roughly 100 congregations in our synod, and the office is located in DeWitt. Our outgoing synodical bishop is the Rev. Craig Satterlee. Our new bishop-elect the Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas will begin her work on September 1.

Expression 3: Churchwide
The Churchwide expression of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is responsible for promoting a Lutheran theological witness, passing social statements that speak to contemporary issues, supporting seminaries and education, working with ecumenical partners, coordinating work among the various synods of the ELCA, and is responsible for national and global mission support, as well as supporting synodical mission. There are sixty-five synods in the ELCA, and the churchwide office is in Chicago. The Churchwide expression is served by a Presiding Bishop: the Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, who finishes her work this fall. The newly elected Rev. Yehiel Curry will be installed on October 4.

So which expression matters most?
In the ELCA, our three expressions are coequal—neither top-down nor bottom-up. And if you are a member of Saron, you are just as fully a member of the Mitten Synod and of the ELCA. So as we welcome our new leadership at all levels, let us pray for our partners in mission and that God's work may be done through our hands.

-Pr. James

General Information

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor James E. Smith
Monday – Thursday
Hours may vary. Appointments are great!
Amanda Bradley (Admin Assistant):
Mondays & Thursdays 10am-2pm
Ken Boyd (Bookkeeper):
Thursday Mornings and by Appointment
Helping Hands Office Volunteers:
Wednesdays 9:00am-11am (approx)

If you or your loved one is need of a visit or pastoral care, please contact Pastor James at 269-816-3870.

Specific questions or concerns may be directed to an appropriate council member or committee liaison:
President – Fran Bolson
Vice President – Erik Bergh
Secretary – Claudia Staude
Treasurer – Ed Brunner
Worship – Marilyn Frey
Learning – Fran Bolson or Scott Gaspari
Outreach – Jim Manore
Facilities – Steve Cook or Ed Brunner
Youth – Chuck Knebl
Support – Jim Manore or Ed Brunner
Hospitality – Merrily Smith or Claudia Staude

Caring and Sharing

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members!

9/1 Romona Wallace
9/3 Chelsea Knauf
9/4 Nicole Coar
9/10 Julie Kimmerly
9/10 David Siewert
9/12 Charles Fortenbacher
9/12 Beth Gray-Roll
9/13 Sally Schmuhl
9/13 Makaio Talbert
9/15 Deanna Deaton
9/15 Dan Fortenbacher
9/17 Hannah Karl
9/17 Hayes Hooper
9/18 Brandon Burrow
9/18 Troy Burrow
9/18 Grant Gacek
9/18 Wendy Hoffman
9/19 Rian Huff
9/20 Todd Gorman
9/21 Ester Kuyat
9/23 Kathy Cowall
9/24 Marybeth Culverhouse
9/24 Sue Fortenbacher
9/25 Colleen Lundgren
9/25 Kirsten Talbert
9/27 Jack Houser

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members!

9/3 Kate & Scott Kohs
9/7 Karen & Peter Johnson
9/11 Ken & Suzy Kohs

If there are any omissions from the birthday or anniversary list, or if a date is incorrect, please let us know so we can get it correct in the future!

CONGRATULATIONS

We were blessed to serve as witness on August 10 as these four boys were welcomed to the Lord's table to partake in their first Holy communion.

FINN GRAY-ROLL

CADEN ZWAR

CHARLIE KOHS

LEE CARTER

Worship

ASSISTED HEARING DEVICES

Our sound system in the sanctuary came with headphones to assist those having difficulty hearing the worship service. If you are interested, ask Marcus if you can try one out.

SENSORY BAGS

As part of extending an unconditional welcome to all, we have Sensory Bags available for use. These bags contain a variety of fidgets that can help someone feel more able to sit quietly and/or focus. We also have noise canceling headphones for those who are sound sensitive. These brightly colored bags can be found in the narthex.

PRAYER GROUP

You are invited to offer your concerns or thanksgivings via our attendance cards each Sunday. Requests can also be made online via a link in our Thursday email. You may include as much, or little, detail as you wish. Requests are then given to the Monday prayer group. **You are invited to be part of this Monday group at noon.** We follow a simple format of morning prayer and insert the petitions and prayers for Saron's ministry and the world. Most weeks we are done in 30 minutes.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Sponsor a week by using the link in the weekly email or by contacting the church office. Please note any occasion/thanksgiving to be recognized in the bulletin. **Flowers are now $40 per vase.** Checks are payable to Saron with "Flowers" as the memo. Take them home to enjoy then please **return the vase.**

Nursery service is available during worship for children under five years old (exceptions are made, especially for siblings). There is a live-feed monitor in the nursery where you may keep up with the service if you need to stay with your child. For children five and older, there are options to bring into the sanctuary, such as clipboards with coloring pages, sensory bags (see article above) and children's bulletins. If you need to step out with them to regroup, there are quiet activities in a bin next to the sofa in the narthex. We embrace family units in all stages and welcome wiggles & giggles as a part of worship.

We recognize the worship experience for families may not look the same for all and encourage sharing concerns and suggestions with Marilyn Lucy (269-759-3464). Please also contact her if you are willing to volunteer to support this important service.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

September 7: 13th Sunday after Pentecost
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 1
Philemon 1-21
Luke 14:25-33

September 14: 14th Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 32:7-14
Psalm 51:1-10
1 Timothy 1:12-17
Luke 15:1-10

September 21: 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 8:4-7
Psalm 113
1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 16:1-13

September 28: 16th Sunday after Pentecost
Amos 6:1a, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6:6-19
Luke 16:19-31

Youth Group (middle school & high school age) is still trying to work out a schedule for meetings that will work for our busy students/athletes/artists.

Contact Chuck Knebl at chasknebl@comcast.net with any questions or to be added to the email list.

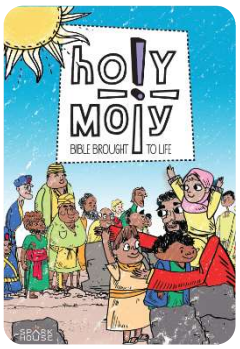
Learning

SUNDAY LEARNING HOUR

We will meet again, beginning September 7, with opportunities for many ages and stages!

The Learning Hour offers the following options:

- 9:40am-10:30am Adult Forum: High School - Adult
- 10am-10:45am Confirmation: Grades 6-8
- 10am-10:45am Sunday School: Preschool - Grade 5
    - New Classroom!
    - New Curriculum!
    - Make New Friends!
    - **Save the Date**: Children's Christmas Pageant on December 14!

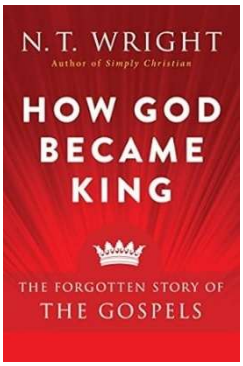


WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Acts of Faith: Tongues of fire, a *Treasure Island*-style sea voyage, Paul's preaching literally boring a man to death: the book of Acts is a feast of the works of the Holy Spirit! Come join our Wednesday morning Bible study as we explore this "act"ion-packed book, every Wednesday at 9:30am. We will begin on September 10 in the upstairs lounge. No special materials needed. Come when you can! Contact Pastor James with questions. All are welcome!

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

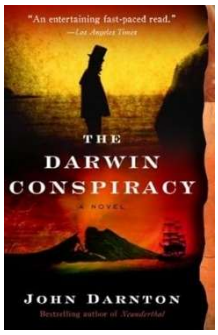
Getting the Gospels Wright: Have we been misreading the key themes of the New Testament for hundreds of years? What would it look like to read the story of Jesus through a new lens? Our Tuesday night Bible study will do just that as we read and discuss N.T. Wright's *How God Became King: The Forgotten Story of the Gospels,* every Tuesday at 6pm in the upstairs lounge. We will begin on September 16. We meet for one hour of discussion, then adjourn to a local restaurant for food and fellowship. Let Pastor James know by September 7 if you would like to be part of the group book order. All are welcome!



If you have any questions, feel free to call, text, or email:
Don Hafer (269/985-3637, haferdon@gmail.com)
Ed Staude (636/288-1016, staude.edmund@gmail.com)
Eric Standen (269/759-3556, dande-standen@sbcglobal.net)
Pr. James (269/816-3870, pastorjames@saronlutheran.org)

On September 7 at 6:30pm in the upstairs lounge, we will be discussing ***James: A Novel*** **by Percival Everett.** An action-packed reimagining of Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, both harrowing and darkly humorous, is told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. The book has won almost every award possible. It's in development as a feature film produced by Steven Spielberg. It will probably be assigned reading in American Literature classes. Let's see what the hype's all about.

Then on October 5, our choice will be ***The Darwin Conspiracy*** **by John Darnton.** The author transports us to Victorian England and around the world to reveal the secrets of the legendary nineteenth-century figure. He blends the power of fact and insights of fiction to explore the many mysteries attached to the life and work of Charles Darwin. Come join us! All are welcome for one or many of our monthly gatherings. A good discussion is guaranteed. Questions? Please call Kathy Cowall at 269-428-0354 or kcowall@hotmail.com.



It is what you read when you don't have to that determines what you will be when you can't help it.
-Oscar Wilde

ALERT: New date & time!

This year Forum & Fellowship will be meeting on **the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month**, and we will begin at **6:30pm**. We are still located in the upstairs lounge. A survey indicated this would be a day and time which could accommodate more people's schedules, so we are going to give it a try.

Forum & Fellowship is an opportunity to learn about and discuss a variety of topics. Topics range from spiritual/ religious to the community and cultures around us. We have entertained a variety of guest speakers, viewed videos, participated in simulation games and writing projects, and heard instructive presentations, all of which have included spirited discussions and have been guided through our lens as people of faith. If you have not yet attended, we hope that you will give it a try. You don't have to commit to the entire season. You can just drop in on the topics that look interesting to you. As always, bring a friend. Everyone is welcome.

Our first meeting will be **Sunday, September 14**. We are still waiting on confirmation of a speaker, so the topic will be announced soon. Watch the weekly email and Sunday bulletin for that additional information. **Contact Ed Staude at 636/288-1016 with any questions.**

Women of the ELCA

DEBORAH CIRCLE

We will meet at 7pm on Wednesday, September 10 in the upstairs lounge. Denise will provide Zoom. That link will be emailed close to the meeting date. Study lesson information will also be emailed. Mary Kynast will lead the study.

Contact Melanie at 269/449-8399 with any questions.

Hospitality

SUNDAY SNACKS

We would love to have snack time outside in the courtyard during September! We just need some hosts!

Who doesn't love a snack during a time of fellowship after the service? If you would like to be a Sunday snack host, sign up via the link in our weekly email or call/email the office so Amanda can sign you up. Please plan for at least 30 to partake. Thank you!

Outreach

NOISY OFFERING

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

We receive a noisy offering (and those not-so-noisy bills) on the first Sunday of each month.
These gifts are sent to ELCA World Hunger.

Thank you for your continued support!

THE BENTON HARBOR SOUP KITCHEN™
HEART-TO-HEART™

Simple food, honestly sourced and lovingly made creates connections, gives fuel to the fight, and starves ignorance and apathy.
-Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen

On July 24, Alaina Bradley, Mary Zylema, Jim Manore and Kathie Bradley assembled 150 meals for the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen. The lunches included a sandwich, chips, fruit, and cookies baked by Sue Harris, Kathy & Gary Cowall, Merrily Smith, and Steve & Kristine Bell. The Soup Kitchen has recently purchased the former Lark's BBQ on Main Street in Benton Harbor. During the extensive renovation, Saron will be assembling sack lunches at Red Lotus Nutrition and delivering them to the Soup Kitchen to be distributed. We would like to thank Red Lotus for allowing us to pack the lunches in their commercial kitchen.

Before the move, we were providing 80 lunches. Recently, we've been assembling 150 lunches! **Because of the increase in community need, we also require more people to provide cookies.**

If you are able to help by assembling lunches or providing cookies, please use the link in the weekly email or contact Kathie Bradley at 269-921-4665.

Thank you to all who continue to support this ministry with your time, contributions, and prayers.
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!

EYE GLASS COLLECTION

Lions RECYCLE For Sight

Do you have old glasses sitting in a drawer? Lions Club has provided a collection box in the narthex. We have several members who are Lions that can deliver our glasses to the club where they will do more good. Thank you!

INCLUSIVITY TASK FORCE

The Inclusivity Task Force is committed to extending a welcome to all. Our congregation adopted the following welcome statement and is a **Reconciling in Christ** church.

As a community of faith who *joyfully shares God's love for all*, we believe our lives and faith are strengthened by diversity. We strive to be a community who welcomes people of every ability, age, citizenship status, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, language, marital status, political perspective, race, and sexual orientation. We are committed to the work of racial equity. Whatever life's circumstance, we openly welcome and value you. We celebrate God's unconditional love and respond joyfully to your presence here. All are welcome. You are welcome.

If you ever have any questions on our inclusivity journey, please feel free to call any one of the task force members:

Lindsay Gaspari: 847/373-8826 | lindsay.gaspari@yahoo.com
Meredith Gacek: 269/235-4530 | meredithgacek@yahoo.com

Interfaith Action

Interfaith Action (swmichiganinterfaith.org) is a coalition of over 40 faith communities in Allegan, Berrien, Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties. Some members of Saron attend meetings and work with various task force groups. One of the goals of Interfaith Action is to promote understanding and respect for diversity.

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY!

On Thursday, **September 18**, Interfaith Action will co-sponsor an evening titled, "Why Don't They Just Get In Line? Learn more about the U.S. immigration system." Led by the Berrien Immigration Solidarity Network, this session will share information on patterns, policies, and attitudes about immigration throughout U.S. history and facilitate The Immigration Simulation, an interactive exercise that simulates the complications, challenges, and complexities of "getting in line" to immigrate to the U.S. Thoughtful non-partisan discussion will be encouraged. The session will start at **6:30pm at Pilgrim Congregational Church** (1200 W. Glenlord Road in St. Joseph.

To register or for more information, go to SWMI Interfaith Action's website: swmichinterfaith.org/events

Support

The Support Committee typically meets the Tuesday before the third Monday of the month at 8pm via Zoom. Contact Don Hafer with any questions at 269/985-3637.

STOCK DONATIONS

Saron partners with a brokerage firm to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, email Ed Brunner at ebrunner54@gmail.com to receive more information. Thanks!

Facilities

HELPING HANDS

We do all sorts of things from building maintenance to preps for worship in the sanctuary to assembling bulletins and newsletters and so much more. We meet on Wednesdays around 9am and know you are invited – whatever your age, gender, or ability. There is a job for you to use your helping hands!

Miscellaneous Bits of News

INSTALLATION OF BISHOP ELECT

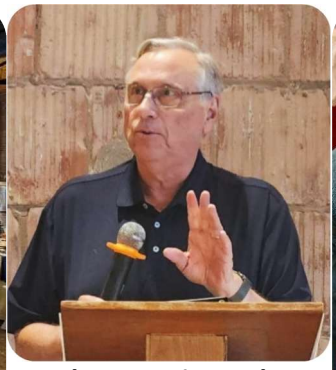
The Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas will be installed as bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 4pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids (2700 Fulton Street E).

All are welcome to attend! Rostered ministers are invited to vest and process. The color of the day is red.

COMMEMORATIVE ORNAMENTS

WATER STREET GLASSWORKS

We still have a handful of 150th Anniversary Commemorative Ornaments available for sale in the narthex. They are $15 each.



Speaker Dennis Lundgren

Rev. Joan Oleson Rev. James E. Smith

Saron Lutheran Church

1875 | 150th Anniversary | 2025

August 10, 2025

Rev. Gary Cowall

Emcee
Scott Gaspari

Madelynn (Victorson) Skvarla

Bishop Craig Satterlee

Newly Retired Organist Irma Gorman

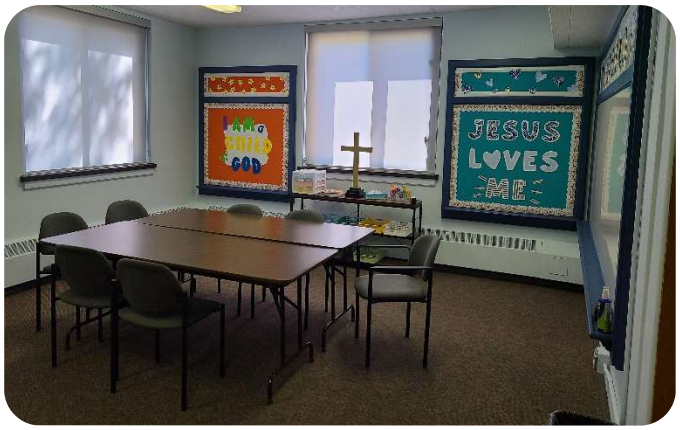
THANK YOU FROM BISHOP CRAIG SATTERLEE

"Thank you for the honor of preaching at your 150th anniversary celebration. Worship was absolutely wonderful. The music was incredible! It was great to see kids in worship. You have a very healthy spirit. I am so glad that I had one more opportunity to be with you as I conclude my ministry as Bishop. Thank you.

Peace,
Bishop Craig"

We also received anniversary well wishes from Rev. Arlon Stubbe (former pastor) and Rev. Laurie Miller (former intern).

UPDATE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOM



It's difficult to tell from the picture but the Sunday School classroom has been completely overhauled. It's now across the hall from it's previous location and has been painted (ceiling, walls, trim, storage unit), has new shades, new bulletin boards, a new rug, and a new bookcase with baskets for each kiddo. It's colorful but not over-stimulating. All we need is the kids to return from break!

UPDATE ON PRAYER & MEDITATION GARDEN

Look at the progress on our new prayer nook, a semi-enclosed set of benches that will block out some of the road noise and provide a peaceful, shaded place to sit for prayer, reflection or have a sandwich.

The future plans for the space includes installing an outdoor prayer station, relocating the Japanese maple to a new spot in the ground (the current above ground planter is rotting), perhaps a picnic table, secured trash reciptical, and signage to encourage the community to enjoy the space and reinforce our welcome to all.

We will have planning meeting in mid September. Let Marilyn Lucy 269/759-3464 know if you'd like to join us. In October, we will have a blessing & celebration of what we've accomplished so far.

The extent of our work on the Community Prayer & Meditation Garden is directly tied to the funds we collect. If you would like to contribute, make sure your donation is marked "Prayer Garden."

We've already provided some items to help see our migrant population through the summer (thank you!) but we would love to send more items the day of the event. This is the list provided: dry pinto and black beans, white rice, bar soap, sunglasses, sunscreen, shampoo (no conditioner), men's t-shirts and long-sleeve shirts (S,M,L), towels, blankets, and baseball caps. Let Saron once again show our support of our migrant neighbors.

Autumn Thoughts on Stewardship

Time is fleeting. It's hard to believe, but Saron's annual Stewardship Season is upon us once again. This year's program, *Generations of Generosity*, kicks off on September 21st with a service of special music and then culminates in a Celebration of Commitments on October 26th.

In a bit of a departure from the last few years, we have two parallel areas of focus this season. First, on Sunday mornings, a series of temple talks will explore the basic principles of Christian stewardship – *Ownership, Responsibility, Accountability, and Reward* – and emphasize how these principles relate to living a Christ-centered life.* And then on each Thursday starting September 18th, we will share a short video highlighting the role of gratitude and generosity, *aka* stewardship, in six specific aspects of our Christian lives: *Worship, Prayer & Meditation, Service & Learning, Care of God's Creation, Church Life at Saron, and Commitment*. (If those aspects sound familiar, you've been listening the last three years. Yay!)

*Let's be clear from the beginning . . .

The principles of Christian stewardship are really pretty simple: 1) God owns everything, 2) God gave us the responsibility to care for Creation, 3) God holds us accountable for how well we care for Creation, and 4) God rewards faithful stewards with eternal life.

But to avoid any potential misconception, our emphasis on doing God's work with the promise of eternal life is not an endorsement of "works righteousness," *i.e.*, the belief that salvation is earned through good deeds and adherence to rules.

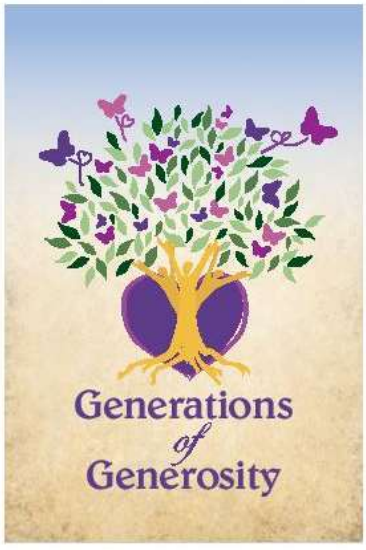
No, our doing God's work is a response to grace already received through faith. Stewardship reflects thankfulness for God's grace and a commitment to using God's gifts to serve God and help others. As Martin Luther stressed, we are saved through the grace of God by faith alone, but because of that faith and that salvation, good works naturally follow.

Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe.

Generations of Generosity

The logo for this year builds on last year's theme, *Generosity rooted in Gratitude*, but introduces the idea of multiple generations. Having just celebrated Saron's 150th anniversary, one can easily imagine the many generations that have worshiped at Saron and the gratitude and generosity they must have exhibited throughout the years to keep Saron vibrant and thriving since 1875.

Now it is our turn to keep the dream alive for ourselves and for future generations by once again generously giving of our time, talents, and treasures. And for the first time in a while, everyone will have an opportunity to complete a Time & Talent survey in conjunction with the typical commitment form, so be thinking about the talents you have and how you can share them to make Saron a better place. Money is always important, but the willingness of members and friends to share their time and unique God-given talents is what sustains a congregation.



We are very excited to embark on this year's stewardship effort with Pastor James on board!

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.
(2 Corinthians 9:11)

Don Hafer, for the Stewardship Committee

Outreach 2025

Lutheran World Relief

Saron Church Women will again be collecting items for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) which distributes items all over the world wherever they are needed. Donation opportunities from the congregation will include “Personal Care Kits”, “Fabric Kits”, and also cash donations for shipping costs.

We will distribute plastic resealable kit bags beginning Sunday, September 14. **Kits will be due on Sunday, October 5.** You may bring completed kits anytime during that timeframe and deposit them in labeled boxes in the narthex. Please do not add other items or omit any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition.

A personal care kit has one light-weight bath towel (dark color recommended), two bath-size bars of soap, one adult-size toothbrush, one sturdy comb, and one metal nail clipper.

A fabric kit has 2-4 yards of cloth and matching thread.

Shipping cost donations will also be welcome. Donations can be cash or a check made payable to Saron Church Women with “LWR shipping costs” as the memo. These donations may be given to Colleen Lundgren, Denise Cook, or Melanie McCammon.

Thank you very much in advance for your generosity in supporting this ministry!

We are doing a big push to make this year’s congregational participation worthy of our 150th Anniversary! Sign-up for an afternoon service project using the link in the weekly email or the clipboard in the narthex.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

1. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for service stations at 10am - 10:45am.

2. Saron is offering three options for our afternoon community service! Those that are volunteering will have a quick lunch together after the 11am service then travel to:

    - **Readiness Center** in Benton Harbor for indoor, seated work.
    - **St. Joseph Library** for physical, outdoor type clean-up.
    - **Harbor Country Mission** in Bridgman for reorganizing of warehouse, including some furniture.

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

This Year, Let's Make It More Than a Day!

Our 150th Anniversary theme is Generations of Serving and Sharing God's Love. We know our congregations shows up for our community. Let's prove it by tracking our volunteer efforts for the month of September. **For every hour you volunteer in our community (immediate or greater), simply write a few words of description on a paper hand and place it in the basket so we can hang it in the narthex.** Our target is 150 hands. We can blow that goal away!

SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Noon Prayer Group	**2** 6pm Bible Study	**3** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**4** 6pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	**5**	**6**
7 ***God's Work. Our Hands.*** 8:30am Worship 10am Learning Hour/Service Stations 11am Worship with Zoom Option 12:15pm Volunteer Lunch 1pm Community Service Projects 6:30pm Book Club	**8** Noon Prayer Group	**9** 6pm Bible Study 8pm Support Meeting	**10** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study 7pm Deborah Circle	**11** 6pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	**12**	**13**
14 8:30am Worship 9:40am Adult Learning Hour 10am Youth Learning Hour 11am Worship with Zoom Option 6:30pm Forum & Fellowship	**15** Noon Prayer Group 7pm Council Meeting **Newsletter Articles Due**	**16** 6pm Bible Study	**17** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**18** 6pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	**19**	**20**
21 **Stewardship Kick-off with Music Sunday!** 8:30am Worship 9:40am Adult Learning Hour 10am Youth Learning Hour 11am Worship with Zoom	**22** Noon Prayer Group	**23** 6pm Bible Study	**24** 9am Helping Hands 9:30am Bible Study	**25** 6pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal **SOUP KITCHEN**	**26**	**27**
28 8:30am Worship 9:40am Adult Learning Hour 10am Youth Learning Hour 11am Worship with Zoom Option 6:30pm Forum & Fellowship	**29** Noon Prayer Group	**30** 6pm Bible Study				